

Covers the Torrance District Like a Blanket.

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CONSULS WILL VISIT PLANTS HERE

AGENTS OF NATIONS COMING

Twenty Europe and Asia Representatives Guests of Local Chamber

BOOST EXPORTS, PLAN TOUR OF TORRANCE FACTORIES WILL TAKE WHOLE DAY TOMORROW

Twenty representatives of foreign governments of Europe and Asia will spend the day in Torrance tomorrow inspecting local industrial plants.

The meeting was arranged by co-operation between the Los Angeles and Torrance Chambers of Commerce, in line with the program of the Southland for the encouragement of Southern California's export trade.

The delegation of foreign consuls will arrive here at 10:30. They will be met by a reception committee of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce composed of Hurum Revere, chairman, C. P. Alverton, F. L. Parks, and Roy Winters.

The consuls will visit the Torrance plants of the Western Sheet Glass Company, Hendrie Rubber Tire Company, Salm Manufacturing Company, Union Tool Company, Columbia Steel Corporation, and Pacific Electric Railway Company. They will lunch at the Ferncroft cafe.

The visit to Torrance is one of many scheduled trips of the consuls to industrial plants in all parts of the Southland.

Eastern Stars Of Four Cities In Big Meeting

San Pedro, Watts, Compton, Torrance Chapters Assemble in Torrance

Zilla Whitford Samson, grand worthy matron of the Order of the Eastern Star for the state of California, paid her official visit to Harbor Chapter (San Pedro), York Chapter (Watts), Pearl Chapter (Compton) and Torrance Chapter at a joint meeting of these chapters Thursday evening in the Masonic temple. Over 300 members of the order were present.

Other grand officers present were Cora Spring Holland, grand associate matron; Mildred Blair, grand A. C.; Madge Connell, grand Esther; Ruth Towne, district deputy grand matron for the 44th district; Christine Sullivan, district deputy grand matron for the 45th district. Worthy matrons and worthy patrons from Downey, Gardena and Bellona, Service and Sunset Chapters of Long Beach, were present.

Torrance Chapter exemplified the work of opening and closing the chapter. Harbor Chapter, San Pedro, exemplified escort duty; Pearl Chapter, Compton, balloting, and York Chapter, Watts, put on the initiatory work.

The hall was tastefully decorated with potted plants and ferns. Mrs. Samson was presented with a set of crystal and gold drinking glasses.

At the close of the chapter all adjourned to the banquet hall, which was decorated with ferns and red hearts, carrying out the Valentine motif.

Patriotic Meeting Of P.-T. A. Will Be Held on Wednesday

A patriotic meeting in commemoration of Abraham Lincoln and George Washington will be held by the Parent-Teacher Association here Wednesday afternoon, Feb. 18.

Mrs. H. V. Davis of Los Angeles will speak on "Everyday Patriotism."

Mrs. Sapp will present carry member in attendance with an American flag. Mrs. Sapp also will present each of the first 100 mothers present with a copy of the work, "The Story of Life."

Must Torrance Go Back to Use of Cesspools in 1929? You Will Decide Next Tuesday

DEFEAT OF BOND ISSUE WILL MEAN:

- 1—RETURN TO POOL SYSTEM!
- 2—WATER CONTAMINATION!
- 3—DANGER IN FLOOD YEARS!
- 4—BLOW TO DEVELOPMENT!

By THE OBSERVER
CONSIDER the four dire consequences, if the \$2,000,000 sewer bond issue fails of approval at next Tuesday's election:

1. Defeat of the proposal will confront the city of Torrance with the possibility of a RETURN TO THE USE OF CESSPOOLS in less than five years.
2. Other sanitary districts have already approved similar bond issues and will proceed with the construction of their trunk line systems even if District No. 5, of which Torrance is a small part, fails to vote yes. With big ocean disposal sewer systems functioning in other districts and none in operation here the industrial and residential development of this area would be SEVERELY RETARDED IF NOT ALTOGETHER STOPPED.
3. Unless Southern California does away with cesspools the underground water supply, already endangered, will be so contaminated that it will be UNFIT FOR USE. Seepage from cesspools already has necessitated the ABANDONMENT of numerous wells in this very district.
4. A rainy winter with partial flood conditions in this district would cause cesspools to run over, with danger of a TYPHOID EPIDEMIC, which health authorities already fear.

ANY one of these consequences of failure to approve the bond issue at Tuesday's election should be sufficient to induce every thinking citizen to vote Tuesday and to vote YES.

Of all the communities in the district Torrance is in the most unique position when the sewer system is considered.

Torrance is the only city in the district, which includes Inglewood, Hawthorne, Gardena, Moneta, Lomita, and most of the Palos Verdes estates, that now has a sewer system. ALL THE REST ARE USING CESSPOOLS.

Why, then, asks a citizen, should Torrance vote in favor of the sewer bonds?

The answer is that the sewer farm on which Torrance disposes of its sewage is already TAXED TO CAPACITY; that this property does NOT belong to the city; that the city's right to use the land for sewage disposal purposes WILL END IN FOUR AND ONE-HALF YEARS.

Why, then, asks the citizen, wouldn't it be better for Torrance residents to vote no on the district bond issue and to build its own sewage disposal plant, burning its sewage.

The answer is that such a disposal system is unsatisfactory, as has been shown by the experience of Pasadena, and would cost the city of Torrance MANY TIMES as much as the district system now proposed.

COMPLETE understanding of the Torrance system requires knowledge of the history of the Torrance sewer farm. When Jared Sidney Torrance founded this city he set aside the land known as the sewer farm for sewage disposal purposes. Since that date this land has been in use. Sewage is pumped into a septic tank and the effluent allowed to soak into the soil. Some time ago a suit over title to this land arose. The city of Torrance entered an interpleader in that suit, contending that no matter who owned the land, the city of Torrance had first right to use of the property for sewer farm purposes, by virtue of the fact that all property in this city was sold with the definite understanding that the land would be so used.

An individual won the suit, and while an appeal was pending the board of trustees were confronted with these facts:

That the property used for sewage disposal purposes was already TAXED TO CAPACITY and even if the city's right to use it were established in the courts the capacity of the soil to absorb

water would soon be EXCEEDED BY THE DEMANDS OF THE GROWING CITY.

That courts time and again have ruled against the use of land near a residence district for sewer purposes, and that when the district along Western avenue near the sewer farm was subdivided and developed the city would soon be ORDERED OFF the property by virtue of the fact that a sewer farm constitutes a NUISANCE to nearby residents.

Faced with these alarming facts, the city made an agreement whereby four and a half acres of land on the sewer farm was deeded to the city in return for the city's agreement to QUIT USING THE PROPERTY FOR SEWAGE DISPOSAL PURPOSES IN FIVE YEARS. This agreement was made six months ago.

Had it not been for the fact that the metropolitan sewer system was then being planned, this agreement would have been impossible, from the city's standpoint, and the city would have been forced to FIGHT ITS CASE in the courts, with only a SLIM hope of victory, and the reasonable certainty that even an established right to use the property for sewer purposes would be recognized ONLY UNTIL SUCH TIME AS THE PROPERTY NEAR THE FARM BECAME DEVELOPED.

With knowledge of these facts in mind, Torrance citizens must appreciate the ALARMING consequences of a defeat of the proposal to be voted upon Tuesday.

Let this fact burn itself into the mind of everyone in this city:
UNLESS THAT BOND ISSUE PASSES TORRANCE WILL BE WITHOUT SEWAGE DISPOSAL FACILITIES IN FOUR AND A HALF YEARS.

NOW something as to the proposed system. The state legislature two years ago passed a bill permitting communities to band themselves together and to bond themselves for the purpose of constructing sewers and disposal plants.

Five districts have been formed in Los Angeles county in accordance with this act.

Two of them have already APPROVED BONDS for construction of their own trunk lines. It is proposed that each district build its own trunks and share in the cost of a disposal plant and a tunnel outfall sewer through the hills and an undersea sewer extending into the ocean off White's Point, west of Point Fermin.

TORRANCE is in District No. 5. The trunk sewers in this district and this district's share in the disposal plant and outfall sewer will cost \$2,000,000. For this amount the bond issue is proposed.

The cost to property owners in this district will be an average of 22 cents per year per \$100 assessed valuation. The assessments will be levied only against real property and NOT AGAINST PERSONAL PROPERTY.

The real property assessed valuation of Torrance is \$5,458,275. The assessment will be against this only. The total assessed valuation of Torrance is \$10,549,985, but only A LITTLE MORE THAN HALF is assessable for the proposed sewer.

The total REAL PROPERTY assessed valuation of the entire district is approximately \$45,000,000. So if the bond issue is approved Torrance will pay only ONE-NINTH of the total cost—or approximately \$222,222, which WILL BE SPREAD OVER 40 YEARS.

It is estimated that a disposal plant for Torrance alone would cost about \$1,000,000 and be unsatisfactory at best.

The proposed sewer system appears to be the ONLY solution of a VEXING problem for Torrance.

VOTE Yes next Tuesday—for HEALTH, WEALTH AND WATER CONSERVATION—VOTE YES.

WILL GIVE FASHION SHOW

Women's Club Play Program for Friday Is Augmented

VAUDEVILLE ACTS ADDED

Ticket Sale for "The Full House" Is Reported

Brisk

Mrs. Nancy Tiffany and Mrs. Fred Hansen, members of the committee in charge of the Women's Club play, "The Full House," which will be given at the high school auditorium Friday night, announced today that the program will be augmented by vaudeville acts and a Torrance fashion show.

The fashion show will be staged by Van Andes Specialty Shop and Sam Levy's. Torrance girls, acting as mannikins, will display the latest spring styles.

Mrs. Joe Stone, chairman of the ticket committee, announces that seats may be reserved at the Dolley drug store and advises the public to reserve their seats early.

The members of the cast and the committee in charge of the play have been working diligently for three weeks perfecting the performance, proceeds of which will go into the club's building fund.

Will Improve All Alleys In Dwelling Area

Work Will Be Paid for Out of City General Fund

Plans for the improvement of all alleys in the residence district of Torrance are complete and the work will start about the first of next month. Assistant City Engineer Hodson informed the board of trustees last night.

The improvements will be paid for out of the general fund and not by special assessment.

The plans call for the grading of some of the alleys, grading and graveling of others, and oiling of still others. The plan contemplates the making of the alleys passable at a minimum of expense. Mr. Hodson told the board that the alleys in the northwest section of the city should be oiled, in order to lay the blow sand.

Episcopal Hall Dedicated Here; Bishop Present

Pastors of Other Churches Make Addresses of Welcome

The new Episcopal hall was dedicated last night, when women of the church served a chicken dinner to guests who included Bishop Stevens, pastors of other churches in Torrance, and other residents of this city.

Rev. Swift of Wilmington acted as master of ceremonies.

The loyal work of Episcopalians in Torrance was extolled by Bishop Stevens. Rev. B. H. Lingenfelter, Rev. Fred Essig and Rev. F. A. Zeller welcomed the Episcopal church into the religious life of Torrance.

Ask Water Service Hammerton Tract

An active campaign to secure water service in the Hammerton tract is being made by the Hammerton Boosters, an organization recently formed by property owners in the district. The committee in charge of the campaign reports favorable progress. The matter has been taken under consideration by the Dominguez Water Company.

Mr. and Mrs. L. J. Acree were recent guests of the Hotel St. James in San Diego.

Observations

Durant, Five Times a Multi-Millionaire, Started Five Times at Scratch—Dean Inge Talks Plainly; French Bread—13 Months to Year?

By W. HAROLD KINGSLEY

W. C. DURANT has made another fortune. This is his fifth. He made a fortune manufacturing buggies and lost it in stocks. He won it making buggies and lost it again. He went into the business of making automobiles on a shoestring and organized first the Buick and then the General Motors Corporation.

In 1910 the company was in bad straits and had to borrow \$30,000,000. Durant "went broke" to make the loan possible. With the remnants of a shattered fortune, he then organized the Chevrolet Motor Company. Under his genius it developed to such a success that in just five years it had bought control of the big General Motors Corporation, and Durant, as president of Chevrolet, walked into the G. M. annual meeting again in control of that gigantic corporation he had been forced out of, penniless, five years before.

The story of this coup is one of the most amazing romances of American business. In 1911, a year after Durant had been forced out of G. M., the new Chevrolet company was making money. Starting then and for four years bankers in various parts of the country were buying General Motors stock in the open market. The orders went through under various names, but the Chevrolet company, W. C. Durant president, was the real buyer.

In the meantime the General Motors, under the presidency of C. W. Nash, another "buggy" man of Flint, Mich., and an old employe of Durant's, was prospering and building up a great surplus. So when Durant astounded the business world by appearing at the famous G. M. annual meeting of 1915 with control in his hands he was able to, and did, declare a 50 percent cash dividend on G. M. common. This dividend and the immediate skyrocketing of the stock made literally millions for Durant and millions for many of his old friends whom he had advised to buy G. M.

In five years, starting at scratch, he had built a company big enough to buy control of the largest automobile industry in the world, Ford excepted. He had made the tail wag the dog. Durant's fortune a year or two later was reckoned at \$100,000,000.

1919 found Durant again in a position to the liking of his Wall street enemies and, pressing the advantage made possible by his precarious position in the stock market, they plucked him clean.

Salvaging only a few hundred thousand dollars, Durant, a fiend for organizing, formed Durant Motors, Inc. Today that company, manufacturing the Star, Flint and Locomobile cars, is a financial success. And Durant, in addition, has made millions in stocks.

Last week, according to press dispatches, he profited to the extent of a cool ten million on the phenomenal rise of East Iron Pipe. His fortune is now estimated at about \$50,000,000.

Yet according to Wall street standards he was "broke" five years ago.

Five times he has been counted down and out and five times the genius of a man has come back—four times to amass a larger fortune than he had ever possessed before. The fifth is still being accumulated.

If Durant's career proves anything it proves that great fortunes are not accumulated through luck.

With the most powerful interests in Wall street as his opponents, Durant couldn't have been "just lucky" five times.

HAS the Christian religion passed its zenith? Will it, like the religions of the Egyptians, the Greeks and the Romans, pass into oblivion?

The answer you may give to these questions, according to the Very Reverend W. R. Inge, dean of St. Paul's, London, depend on what you mean by the Christian religion.

This eminent churchman draws some striking conclusions in an article in the Atlantic Monthly, February.

The dean points out that "the history of religions—not of religion—has been usually a history of decline"; that "a revelation is purest when it is fresh from the mint"; that "it is a plausible belief that, as there seems to be no resurrection of dead mythologies, so Christianity will languish till a new religion captivates the imagination of men and sweeps victoriously over the world."

And after striking one with those lofty blows, Dean Inge indicates that those things which will pass away are the forms and temporal accoutrements of Christian sects; but that the Christian religion, "roughly defined as a way of believing and living based on the recorded teachings of Jesus Christ," will carry forward; just as the fundamentals of Christianity progressed from the philosophers of the Greeks who lived long before the Carpenter of Nazareth.

Truth, the dean apparently concedes, is eternal. And he urges the church to recognize and foster truth, no matter in what guise or under what name it reveals itself.

The sublime virtues of Christianity will not die, though the forms of worship may. But the dean does not grant that the Old Testament must necessarily be accepted as truth in all particulars. He sees no danger to Christianity in the revelations of science, but sees great danger if the church denies science its established truths.

Christianity, as a "way of living and believing," can and must reconcile itself to scientific truth; else, he reads the dean's meaning aright, the whole fabric will be endangered as mankind sees the threads of Old Testament "mythology" torn out of the cloth.

One does not have to agree with Dean Inge in every particular to find much food for serious thought in his searching article, ambitiously entitled "Religion in the Future."

A JOURNEYMAN baker of Paris declares he has discovered a dough formula that will keep bread in an edible condition for two years.

Old stuff, as any veteran of the A. E. F. well knows. The bread which the French supplied to the Americans on those happily few occasions when American-made bread was not available was certainly two or more years old, although its edibility was open to deep suspicion.

Why the French seek a bread that will last longer is more than I can understand. The Frenchman buys his "du pain" as the eastern American purchases his coal—long in advance of its use.

Perhaps he does this on account of the general household utility of the elongated French loaf, which, viewed from almost any angle, is a handy instrument to have about.

The Frenchman carries it home from the "boulangerie" unwrapped, under his arm. Once in the home it becomes a household utensil of great versatility. I have seen it serving as a door-stopper, I have seen a peasant woman sharpening on its fluted exterior of a loaf the very knife she later used to slice it.

French babies play with it as a steamboat and shove it across the floor.

And what doughboy has not seen an aroused French mother turn her youngest over her knee, grasp the family loaf near the tapering end and, holding the flat side down, give him a spanking on that portion of his anatomy which is recognized by women of all the world, regardless of country, color or creed, as the place where it will do him the most good?

MAN KILLS HIMSELF AT CAFE

S. E. Hughes, Aged 69, Takes Own Life With Revolver

SAD OVER ILL HEALTH

Widow Left With Three Children Tells of His Despondency

S. E. Hughes, aged 69, shot himself between the eyes with a 38-caliber revolver Saturday morning at the Orange Blossom cafe on West Carson street. He died a few hours later at the Hermosa-Redondo hospital.

Mrs. Hughes, who is left with three young children, told Torrance police that her husband had been noticeably despondent over ill health for several weeks.

About a week before he committed suicide Hughes fainted while walking from the house.

Saturday morning he went into the washroom at the Orange Blossom cafe, which he had recently taken over. Mrs. E. M. Parker heard a shot. She and men employed on an oil well near by ran into the cafe. Hughes was lying on the floor with the gun in his hand. He was rushed to the hospital, but never regained consciousness.

Threatens Suit as Board Says No to Request

Trustees Refuse to Open Industrial Area for Non-Fireproof Houses

H. B. Dalley of Long Beach again told the board of trustees last night that he intends to carry into the colors his request and that of other property owners for a permit to construct residences in the industrial district bounded by Western avenue, Artisan avenue, Carson street and 222d street.

The board passed a resolution upholding the refusal of the building inspector to grant a permit for a dwelling in this district, pointing out that the inspector acted in accordance with the requirements of the ordinance.

The board is aware that the erection of dwellings in the residence is permitted, but that the residences must be fireproof.

Charles Vonderhale and Mr. Dalley pressed the case of the property owners. Mr. Dalley requested that the board officially uphold the ruling of the building inspector, so that he would "have standing in court."

Mayor R. B. Smith read a letter from John Salm of the Salm Manufacturing Company, commending the trustees on the stand they have taken in the matter. The letter follows:

"Board of Trustees, Torrance, California.

Gentlemen:

"We appreciate the stand you have taken concerning the rezoning of property in the industrial district. It will only be a question of time when Torrance will be in serious need of one-acre tracts for small industries and such tracts for small plants must be near the business district in order to serve the small manufacturers."

"One other thing that Torrance seriously needs today is a number of small manufacturing plants which employ a class of labor not employed by the larger industries."

"Assuring you that we appreciate the stand you have taken, which will be for the benefit of Torrance, we are

"Very truly yours,

"SALM MANUFACTURING COMPANY.

"By JOHN SALM."

Will Give Liberty Bond Away Free at Dance on Thursday

A dance will be given by the ladies of the Catholic church at Catholic hall Thursday night. A \$100 Liberty bond will be given away.